

**CITY OF HOUGHTON
RESOLUTION #2010-1319**

PROCLAMATION FOR BICYCLE FRIENDLY COMMUNITY

At a regular meeting of the City Council of Houghton, Michigan held at the City Center on April 26, 2010, the following resolution was offered by councilor Lankton and seconded by councilor Joachim.

WHEREAS, the Houghton City Council makes decisions affecting the health and safety of our residents, the efficient conduct of commerce and delivery of government services, and the long-term quality of life in our communities;

WHEREAS, we recognize that increasing bicycle use can:

- Boost the economy by creating a community that is an attractive destination for new residents, tourists and businesses;
- Enhance recreational opportunities, especially for children, and further contribute to the quality of life in the community;
- Improve the environment by reducing the impact on residents of pollution and noise, limiting greenhouse gases, and improving the quality of public spaces;
- Save city funds by increasing the efficient use of public space, reducing the need for costly new road infrastructure, preventing crashes, improving the health of the community, and increasing the use of public transport;
- Improve the health and well being of the population by promoting routine physical activity;
- Reduce congestion by shifting short trips out of cars. This will also make cities more accessible for public transport, walking, essential car travel, emergency services, and deliveries;
- Save lives by creating safer conditions for bicyclists and as a direct consequence improve the safety of all other road users;
- Increase opportunities for residents of all ages to participate socially and economically in the community, regardless of income or ability.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED that the Houghton City Council is committed to taking the following steps to improve conditions for bicycling by adopting the following Action Plan for Bicycle Friendly Communities:

1. Adopt a target level of bicycle use (e.g. percent of trips) and safety to be achieved within a specific timeframe, and improve data collection necessary to monitor progress.
2. Provide safe and convenient bicycle access to all parts of the community through a signed network of on and off-street facilities, low-speed streets, and secure parking. Local cyclists should be involved in identifying maintenance needs and ongoing improvements.
3. Establish information programs to promote bicycling for all purposes, and to communicate the many benefits of bicycling to residents and businesses (e.g. with bicycle maps, public relations campaigns).

4. Ensure all city policies, plans, codes, and programs are updated and implemented to take advantage of every opportunity to create a more bicycle-friendly community. Training should be available to staff in all departments to better enable them to complete this task.
5. Educate all road users to share the road and interact safely. Road design and education programs should combine to increase the confidence of bicyclists.
6. Enforce traffic laws to improve the safety and comfort of all road users, with particular focus on behaviors and attitudes that cause issues between motor vehicles and bicycles.
7. Develop special programs to encourage bicycle use in communities where significant segments of the population do not drive (e.g. through Safe Routes to Schools programs) and where short trips are most common.
8. Promote intermodal travel between public transport and bicycles, e.g. by putting bike racks on buses and improving access to public transport vehicles.

Resolution duly adopted on April 26, 2010.

CERTIFIED



Kurt Kuure
City Clerk